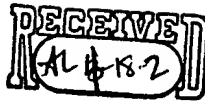


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ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.: E00295/70066 (EJR)
Date of Facsimile: April 17, 2002

#17
4/23/02

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED
EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/107,818 - Confirmation No.: 8313
Filing Date	June 30, 1998
First Named Inventor	Steven M. Blumenau, et al.
Group Art Unit	2153
Examiner Name	Dung C. Dinh

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. **NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, you may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) instead of an RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. Previously submitted

- i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on **January 17, 2002**
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____

b. Enclosed is/are:

- i. ☒ Preliminary Response
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☒ Other: Petition for One Month Extension of Time

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months) and the Fee of \$130.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. ☐ Applicant claims small entity status, See 37 CFR 1.22.

4. Fees - The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$850.00 which covers:

- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other

- b. ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23/2825 in the amount of \$ _____ which covers:

- ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- ☐ Other

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Serial No. 09/107,618

Art Unit: 2153

5. If the filing of this RCE necessitates an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136(a), the applicant hereby requests such extension of time.
6. If there is no check enclosed, or if the amount of the enclosed check in this RCE is incorrect, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

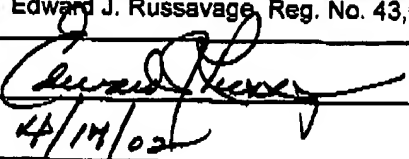
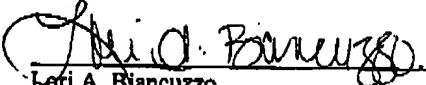
7. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

Correspondence address below

CUSTOMER NUMBER:


23628

OR

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8. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED					
NAME	Edward J. Russavage, Reg. No. 43,069				
SIGNATURE					
DATE	4/14/02				
<p align="center">CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)</p> <p>The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office to the attention of Box RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, FAX No. 703-746-7238 on the 17th day of April, 2002.</p> <p align="center"> Lefi A. Biancuzzo</p>					